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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

TRADEMARK

Applicant : Yuki KAWAKITA et al.

Group Art Unit: 2857

Appl. No. : 10/084,947

Examiner: Unknown

Filing Date : March 1, 2002

For : FLEXURE LIFE ESTIMATING METHOD, WIRE HARNESS
DESIGNING METHOD AND PROGRAM THEREOF

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56, §§1.97-1.98,
Applicants hereby call the following document to the Examiner's attention:

Japanese Application No. 08-166333, published on June 25, 1996, along with an
English abstract and a full English language translation thereof; and

International Application WO 01/08172, published on February 1, 2001, which
includes an English abstract. We note that this application is based on Japanese Application
No. 11-21065, which is discussed on pages 4 and 5 of the specification of the instant
application.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider and cite the instant
documents. Copies of the above-noted documents are attached and have been listed on a

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PTO-1449 Form which is also attached hereto. Accordingly, the Examiner is requested to initial the appropriate spaces on the attached PTO-1449 Form and to return a copy of the Form to the Applicants with the next official communication in the present application to confirm consideration of these documents.

Applicants also bring to the Examiner's attention the following copending and commonly assigned patent applications:

✓ U.S. Patent Application No. 09/787,412 to INOUE et al., entitled "Bending Life Prediction Method For Wire or Wire Harness", which was filed on September 10, 2001;

✓ U.S. Patent Application No. 09/812,590 to KAWAKITA et al., entitled "Bend Test For a Wire Harness and Device For Such A Test", which was filed on March 21, 2001;

✓ U.S. Patent Application No. 09/814,708 to KAWAKITA et al., entitled "Bend-Test Device For a Wire Harness", which was filed on March 23, 2001; and

U.S. Patent Application No. 09/988,621 to ONOUE, entitled "Bend Test Device For an Electrical Cable or Wire Harness", which was filed on November 20, 2001.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2)(iii), copies of the above-mentioned applications are attached hereto. However, the Examiner is also requested to review the file wrapper of these U.S. patent applications at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office and the references of record, if any, cited therein.

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Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,
Yuki KAWAKITA et al.

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June 3, 2002
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